

THE RICHMOND PLANET

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RICHMOND

PRICE, FIVE CENTS

"Jim Crow" Street-Car Law Set to Catch Negroes. ONLY WHITE FOLKS IN THE TRAP.

Thanks to the Advice of the Citizens Mass-Meeting--Colored
Folks Are Staying off the Cars.

THEY ARE WALKING AND AVOIDING TROUBLE—BIG FEET A GREAT BLESSING.

WHITE FOLKS ARRESTED.

The only arrest on the first day of the enforcement of the new street-car law was that of John B. Meyers, white, a carpenter and builder, of 500 Lewis street, who was tried and convicted in police court this morning on the charge of refusing to change his seat in an Oakwood car when so requested by the conductor.

There was no disorder in this act of law violation. Mr. Meyers was in a car where there was but one Negro passenger.

The testimony was that Mr. Meyers took the third seat from the rear. The conductor, following the company's construction of the law, as set forth in the rules provided the men, asked him to go to the front.

Judge Crutchfield declared the law ironclad and the case of Mr. Meyers a clear violation. He fined him \$5.00, but remitted the fine as he believed the violation was merely a case of misunderstanding the law.

"The conductor has absolute power to make you change," said the judge. "I had an idea that I was the czar of this town, but you'll see me moving when the conductor says move."

Captain Eckles, (white) conductor of the Cannon Ball train on the N. & W. road, one of the most widely known men in this end of the State, was the second victim of the new "Jim Crow" street-car law and was under arrest in the police court to-day for its violation.

Capt. Eckles is recovering from a severe injury in a wreck received a short time ago and is feeble and weak in both arms and dropped into the first seat he reached and declined to move. He declared that he knew nothing of the new law. Counsel for the street-car company asked for his discharge and he was dismissed without argument.

[RICHMOND, VA., TIMES-DISPATCH, APRIL 24, 1904.]

Another disagreement arose on a street car last night, which resulted in the arrest of George Stringer, a white passenger, who was bailed at the First Station, and the threatened arrest of F. Williams, a conductor.

The conductor claims he asked the passenger to move forward, and on that simple request hung all the trouble, which started in the city and wound up in the county near Thirty-second and Q Streets. The two men bore marks of strife upon their countenances. Mr. Stringer was arrested, and he declared that he would swear out a warrant against Mr. Williams in the county.

COLORED FOLKS ARRESTED.



that he was prepared for the weather.

THE COOK OBJECTED.

A white gentleman met Editor Mitchell and informed him that he had trouble with his cook on his account. His eyes twinkled and he laughed as he told the editor that he would have a fuss with both him and his cook. "Why I told her to bring my dinner to me on the car," she said. "Yes, sir, I'll bring it, but I'll walk, sir, and bring it."

"No, you won't," said he. "Your time belongs to me. You bring it on the car." "She said nothing more, but looked worried. She brought the dinner, and when she was going back, she saw you and some friends ahead of her. She got off the car at Sixth street and walked the remainder of the way."

OUR WHITE COLORED FOLKS.

Several white colored folks have been forced to ride with the white folks, the conductors having ordered them to ride there. Mr. Peter Chandler is one of these and Mr. Henry Austin is another and there are numerous other instances. It is suggested that all of our white colored folks wear tags duly certified to by officers of the street-car company in order to prevent the further consummation of such an outrage. In these cases, the conductors evi-

RICHMOND'S JIM CROW CARS.

Of all the towns beneath the stars, Old Richmond beats for Jim Crow cars. They thread her streets and all around her suburbs Jim Crow cars abound. And some are fast and some are slow. But in the rear all serve Jim Crow.

The smokers on the rear platform Can joke and smoke when cold or warm; In wide spread door conductor stands, That joke and smoke of vilest brands Throughout the rear may freely flow And fill the space kept for Jim Crow.

In summer time they'll smoke Jim Crow; In winter time when bleak winds blow. Jack Frost will stalk through open door, And killing draughts will always pour. Upon those who shall hold the row Of seats in rear kept for Jim Crow.

But the summer cars, when they shall go To the lakes where pleasant breezes blow; Refreshing air of day or night Will strike alike the black and white! And Jim Crow then will have his rights, And fair as well as any whites!

But will he though! But will he though! Who hold the two rear seats? By Joe! Those seats belong to him who smokes And loves to crack his ribald jokes, And swift wind from the rear will blow. These sweet things to our dear Jim Crow.

It is the principle involved, As all will see when all is solved, Which now enigmatic may seem To those who do not wake, but dream: 'Tis rights of man! make here no balk— Man's rights we claim! For these we walk.

—O. M. STEWARD.

On the Right Track.

[BALTIMORE, MDS., AFRO-AMERICAN LEDGER.]

Our contemporaries coming from Richmond, Va., advise us of the "Jim Crow" program with respect to the street cars of that city which goes into effect on July 1st. They are united in their advice to the colored people of Richmond in the attitude in which they should sustain towards this legalized effort to efface our manhood and self respect. They advise the colored citizens to do what they were to do before the advent of electric cars—that's walk. And where the distance is very great they advise the enterprising men of the race who are proprietors of teams and other vehicles to inaugurate a "bus" system for the convenience of Afro-American people. The advice is genuinely good and orthodox, and the colored people of Richmond will do well to heed the same. In so doing, they will not only maintain their self-respect but what is equally as helpful they will add to their acquisition facilities and increase their own financial resources in turning into race channels a great deal of money which now goes towards building up the hand and the arm up-lifted to crush us out. It is a peaceful but a very effective weapon.

PROF. G. W. HAYES TO DELIVER AN ORATION.

"Higher Education of the Negro Youth." Reformers' Hall, Monday Night, May 9th.

You and your friends are cordially invited to witness an oration, subject: "The Higher Education of Negro Youth," by Prof. G. W. Hayes, president Virginia Seminary and College. Location, Reformers' Hall, Monday eve, May 9th, 1904, 8:00 o'clock. For benefit of Mt. Carmel Baptist Church.

Prof Hayes is a national character. He ranks among the leaders of his people. He is a scholar of the highest type, and enjoys the distinction of being the greatest orator of the State. The lovers of education will hear him.

PROGRAM.

Master of Ceremonies, Lawyer J. R. Pollard, Welcome Address Capt. E. A. Graves, Response on Behalf of Prof. Hayes, Prof. Chas. Mitchell, President Richmond Business College, Solo; Introduction of Speaker, Hon. Jno. Mitchell, Jr., President Mechanics Savings Bank. Oration, Subject "The Higher Education of the Negro Youth," Prof. G. W. Hayes.

General Admission, 10 cents. Reserved Seats, 15 cents.

WANTED—10 Coppers, 10 Rollers and 50 Stimmers for Hannibal, Canada.

Apply to RISON & REYNOLDS, 119 Market St., Danville, Va.

AN APPEAL FOR FUNDS.

Mr. McGehee's Statement—To Test Race Legislation.

The women of our race, our mothers, wives, sisters and daughters are preparing to go to the meeting of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs at St. Louis, and that they may escape the indignities of the "Jim Crow" cars, are casting about for means whereby they may engage special Pullman cars at an extra charge and expense; and even in this many will not be inconvenienced and not a few will not be fortunate enough to thus secure the comforts afforded by the Pullman Company, and above all, escape from the "Jim Crow" cars. All honor to these brave women for their foresight, undauntedness, and courage too; but what a shame that they are compelled to resort to these means in order to have decent accommodations on a public carrier. The women of no other race will be thus compelled to do so. And double deep the shame that their being denied the accommodations, facilities and privileges furnished and supplied by the Pullman Company to all others who apply, is chargeable to the neglect of the men of our race. To provide against just this condition, for eight months we have spent some effort to collect funds to test the right of the Pullman Company to refuse such accommodations.

All recall the case of Rev. H. T. Johnson, (Editor CHRISTIAN RECORDER) vs. the Pullman Company for refusing him the accommodations, facilities and privileges that the Company supplies to the public. The case was tried to the court and a jury; and the jury returned a verdict for the highest amount the Plaintiff could recover.

The Hon. Kirkpatrick who tried the case set aside the verdict and gave judgment for the company, notwithstanding the verdict, on the ground that the company had the right to deny persons the accommodations of their cars solely because of their color, and there was no law, neither statutory nor common, that forbade them denying such right. Steps were at once taken to carry the case to the Supreme Court of the United States.

We had taken the grounds that unless the ruling was reversed the company would enforce a rule, at least throughout the border and southern States refusing its accommodations to persons of color.

The first money for the case was raised at a service held at St. Peter Claver's church (a Catholic Church of St. Paul, Minn.) With this printed matter was gotten out setting forth in full the case and the purpose to which the money was to be expended. Broadcast the matter was distributed and race papers were urged to publish the appeal for funds; ministers petitioned to ask contributions of their churches; individuals imprompted and associations and societies visited and contributions solicited of them, and all were requested to send in the names of persons who might contribute. The receipts have not covered the expenses involved and had it not been for the National Afro-American Council taking the money out of its reserve fund the appeal would have had to be abandoned. And even now there is serious want for funds to prosecute the appeal to final determination.

What now will the race do? The company is enforcing such a rule. Bishops of our churches, and our women are forced into the "Jim Crow" cars there to be subjected to all the indignities common to the coarser classes of both races. Will we now contribute the necessary money? Surely the conditions make the duty urgent and imperative. Longer delay but brings more hindrances and to make success more difficult to obtain. For myself, I still have the faith that a response will be had and so appeal again that those who will, to send what sum they can. A dollar is asked of every one, but credit will be given for any amount. A much less sum would be sufficient if all would contribute, but we must provide against a large number failing.

Perhaps I should state, though I think too I should not, some friends of mine and of the race, Catholic Priests have extended me an invitation to come into their parishes and lecture concerning the race to the parishioners and receive contributions to the fund. My mind is, funds should come wholly from the race, but the cause is that of right between man and man, and all men have to do with such a cause. This emphasizes in my mind the thought that the pastors of our churches should do as much.

We are glad to furnish all information wanted and quite pleased to receive the names and addresses of persons who are likely to help so good a cause.

Respectfully, FREDERICK L. MCGHEE, Vice-Director, L. B. N. A. A. O. Union Block, St. Paul, Minnesota.

THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY.

Mr. McCarthy Wins—Alderman Bohen Defeated.

The municipal campaign has attracted much attention. The Democratic primary was held Tuesday, April 26th and Mayor Richard M. Taylor was defeated by Mr. Carlton McCarthy by a majority of 39.

Only 5,167 votes were cast out of a voting population of 23,000. Mr. McCarthy received 2,653 votes and Mr. Taylor 2,514. It is evident that the change in the election law about the defeat of the

PERSONALS AND BRIEFS.

—Mr. Mack Harris of this city is now in Philadelphia.

—Mr. J. N. Vandervall, Proprietor of the Essex Steam Carpet Cleaning Co., E. Orange, N. J., was in the city this week.

—Mr. Reuben Carter of Roxbury, Charles City Co., Va., visited our office this week.

—Col. W. Henry Stokes who was operated upon Wednesday, 22d, is much improved.

—We return thanks for an invitation to the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Yancey, 329 W. 52nd St., New York Sunday, May 1st, 3 p. m.

—For fresh fish, oysters, etc., call on Messrs. M. Lawson & Co. See advertisement.

—Rev. Dr. A. Binga, Jr., pastor of the First Baptist Church of Manchester, Va., will celebrate his 32d anniversary Sunday, May 1, 1904.

Let All Walk.

[OMAHA, NEB., ENTERPRISE.] Richmond, Va., is to have "Jim Crow" street car system. The Virginia Passenger and Power Company of that city has announced its intention to separate the races on the street cars assigning white people to the front and Negroes to the back seats. The conductors have been clothed with police authority so that they can compel Negroes to take such seats as they see fit to assign them or else submit to a fine. Here is a studied effort and a deliberate plot to foment inter-racial strife. Be it said to the credit of the Negro press of Richmond that they are unanimous in advising their race to walk.

The Negroes of Richmond will do the right thing if they follow the advice given and also establish bus lines as all three of these papers advise. Every Negro in Richmond should stay off the street cars.

Odd Fellows Attention!

The annual Thanksgiving Service to the various lodges, Past Grand Master's Council and Households of Ruth of the G. U. O. of O. F., will be delivered at Moore Street Baptist Church, Sunday, May 8th at 3:00 o'clock P. M. Lodge and Past Grand Masters' Council will assemble at Prince's Hall, Leigh Street, promptly at 1 o'clock P. M. from thence, escorted by Richmond Patriarchy, No. 1, will proceed to the church. Households of Ruth will assemble at the church.

O. W. YOUNG, Chairman, OSCAR N. BROWN, Secretary.

Y. M. C. A. NOTES.

The Y. M. C. A. Conference met last Friday evening. Each man present showed by his report that he had not been playing.

The work in the jail, almshouse and upon the corners of the streets is doing much good.

Mr. C. F. Foster addressed the boys last Sunday. Subject: "Small Things." The small foxes spoil the vines.

Rev. J. Andrew Bowler addressed a large number of men last Sunday at the True Reformers' Hall. Every man in town should have heard him. Subject: "Carves." An address from the Thon-Hopkin's Quartette rendered excellent music. The men hope to have them help again soon.

You are invited to the explanation on the Sunday School Lessons to-day 5:00 p. m., at the rooms. Everybody wants to hear Prof. E. F. McWilliams who is deeply interested in this class.

Do not forget to be on time Sunday for the committee work.

Boys' meeting Sunday 4 p. m., at the rooms. Mr. J. H. Rhorer is always glad to make the boys welcome.

Now for a Big Men's Meeting Sunday 3:30 p. m., at the True Reformers' Hall. Prof. J. R. L. Diggs of the Virginia Union University will address the men. Subject: "The Black Man's Claims." No man should fail to hear this timely address. Trents' Quartette will sing special music. Bring another man.

By special request we will have a special meeting for women only Sunday June 12th 3:30 p. m., at the True Reformers' Hall. Rev. W. H. White, pastor of the Mt. Carmel Baptist Church will deliver a special address. Tell all the women.

Let no home forget to have special prayer for the Y. M. C. A.

\$150.00 Endowment Paid.

Richmond, Va., April 27th, 1904.—This is to certify that I have received from John Mitchell, Jr., Grand Chancellor of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, Knights of Pythias, (\$150.00) One Hundred and Fifty Dollars in payment of the death-claim of Sir Lewis L. Banks, who was a member of Blooming Lily Lodge, No. 15, K. of P., N. A., S. A., E. A., A. & A. Richmond, Va.

Signed:—ISAAC BANKS, M. S. B.

\$150.00 Endowment Paid.

Richmond, Va., April 27th, 1904.—This is to certify that I have received from John Mitchell, Jr., Grand Chancellor of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, Knights of Pythias, (\$150.00) One Hundred and Fifty Dollars in payment of the death-claim of Sir Austin Hill, who was a member of Samson Lodge, No. 1, K. of P., N. A., S. A., E. A., A. & A. Richmond, Va.

Signed:—GRACE HILL, for